

trap and does not provide a single mother the help she needs to find a job.

President Clinton is in dire need of sensitivity training for hiring a pollster who also is employed by an accused rapist.

Mr. Speaker, while we are signing up Clinton administration officials in classes, someone should enroll George in remedial math.

WELFARE REFORM PLAN IS NOT BIPARTISAN

(Mr. CARDIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, let me point out that the statement of the last speaker is just wrong. This is not a bipartisan proposal that is being brought up on Medicaid and welfare. The Democratic Governors have pointed out, although they worked very hard with Republican Governors to come out with a fair compromise on the subject of Medicaid and welfare, the proposal that the Republicans are bringing forward is not that compromise.

Mr. Speaker, once again we find the Republicans trying to bring out a Presidential veto rather than getting anything done. At least we had the Democratic Governors and the Republican Governors working together, a lesson that we should learn here of working together. But instead, the Republican leadership is bringing out their bill, not the bipartisan bill.

Mr. Speaker, I regret that, because I think we had an opportunity to get something done. But, obviously, the Republican leadership does not want that to happen.

CHANGE WELFARE AS WE KNOW IT

(Mr. SMITH of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, look, most of the American people know that our welfare programs are not working. They have been successful in transferring money, and in the process they have taken away the self-respect, in many cases they have taken away the eagerness for those individuals to get up every morning and go to work and be a contributor to society.

Mr. Speaker, can we imagine any American family going to their young teenage daughter and saying, "I want to talk to you about individual responsibility and pregnancy"; and then they say, "If you get pregnant, we are going to increase your allowance by \$500 a month, give you a separate place to live, and give you a food allowance"?

We would never do that as individual families, yet our society does that. It has got to change. My Governor, John Engler, has come to this administration for waivers. Governor Thompson

of Wisconsin has come in for waivers. Let us change welfare as we know it.

SENIORS TARGETED BY REPUBLICAN MEDICARE PLAN

(Ms. MCKINNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, Medicare protections against the extra-billing of seniors are the latest target of Republican leaders. As it stands now, health care providers are not allowed to extra-bill seniors for services paid for by Medicare. Under the Republicans' latest Medicare proposal, however, seniors would become sitting ducks for unscrupulous providers who want to make a fast buck by extra-billing the sick elderly.

At the same time, Mr. Speaker, Republican leaders are perfectly happy to let gluttonous defense contractors overbill the American taxpayer. Rather than clamping down on military contractors' overbilling the U.S. taxpayer, they will get an extra \$12.4 billion, thanks to the Republicans.

Under a Republican-controlled Congress, defense contractors and the health care industry have free reign to give our seniors and taxpayers a B-2-sized wedge with NEWT's blessing.

WELFARE SYSTEM NEEDS GREATER FLEXIBILITY

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, let me tell my colleagues about Sue and Sally Jones; real people, fake names. Sue is 18 years old. She has a baby. Her sister, Sally, is 15 years old. She does not have any children. She is in the 8th grade; should be in the 10th grade. Sue is a 10th grader who should be a senior.

Mr. Speaker, they do not live with their biological dad, because he was killed when they were toddlers. They live their biological mother's common-law husband, but the biological mother does not live at home anymore because she is a crack addict. One day she threw ash in her live-in husband's eyes, and he is disabled and cannot work.

They have a brother but not by the same biological father. He is in jail. This is a real family, but the caseworker in Savannah tells me that he thinks he can get both of these ladies off of the Government's welfare system and into the socioeconomic mainstream; but he needs flexibility.

Mr. Speaker, right now in our rigid, Washington-dictated welfare system one person has to work on their child care needs, one on the food needs, and one on the health care needs. Somebody else has to work on transportation, someone else on education.

Mr. Speaker, I tell my colleagues, these girls cannot get out of the poverty trap with a system like this. They need flexibility. The caseworker needs

flexibility, and that is why we need to support Medicaid and welfare State grants.

CONGRESS SHOULD CELEBRATE OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, shame on us. This is the end of Older Americans Month, and here we are again, throwing them to the wolves.

First of all, we are telling many of our older Americans who live in rural communities that with the Republican extreme Medicare plan, they are going to see some of their more familiar hospital sites closed.

Oh, yes, Mr. Speaker, I received a letter from those individuals who would suggest that we do not have the facts. I am saddened to say that that individual who wrote a letter to my office did not have the courage to write a return address for us to be able to reply with the facts.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, rural hospitals will close under the extremist Republican Medicare plan. And, yes, many of our seniors who have gotten familiar with their own physicians, have a relationship with them, will be pushed into managed care.

Mr. Speaker, do my colleagues know about managed care? That is the kind of care that says we can only have 15 minutes with our doctor. That is the kind of care that says: I do not know if I can refer to you a specialist; it may cost too much.

We need to be able to say to the Republicans that we believe in older Americans because they have believed in America. We should not give to the wealthy Americans the crown jewel of tax reduction while we short-change our senior citizens. I am going to celebrate Older Americans Month.

REPUBLICANS' MEDICAID PROPOSALS WILL ALLOW EXTRA CHARGES TO RECIPIENTS

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, last week, in a room off the floor, House Republicans could take a minute out of their day and have their picture taken with a senior citizen and a sign that read something like this: "I am friendly to seniors."

It was a staged photo opportunity and, in fact, it was and is phony. Since taking control of the Congress, the Republicans have waged an all-out assault against seniors. Their new budget cuts \$169 billion from Medicare in order to finance tax breaks for the wealthy.

Today's Washington Post says the current Medicaid proposal from the GOP would "turn Medicaid over to the